

Citing Part of a Work (MLA Style)

If you quote, paraphrase, or otherwise use a specific passage in a book or article, give the relevant page or section (for example, paragraph) number or numbers. When the author's name is in your text, give only the number reference in parentheses, but if the context does not clearly identify the author, add the author's last name before the reference. Leave a space between them, but do not insert punctuation or, for a page reference, the word *page* or *pages* or the abbreviation *p.* or *pp.* If you used only one volume of a multivolume work and included the volume number in the bibliographic entry, you need give only page numbers in the reference (see the Lauter et al example), but if you used more than one volume of the work, you must cite both volume and page numbers (see 5.4.3).

If your source uses paragraph numbers rather than page numbers—as, for example, some electronic journals do—give the relevant number or numbers preceded by the abbreviation *par.* or *pars.* (see the Schomer example); if the author's name begins such a citation, place a comma after the name. If another kind of section is numbered in the source (for example, screens) either write out the word for the section or use a standard abbreviation (see ch. 6); if the author's name begins such a citation, place a comma after the name (see the Gardiner example). When a source has no page numbers or any other kind of reference numbers, no number can be given in the parenthetical reference. The work must be cited in its entirety (see 5.4.1)

Books

Brian Taves suggests some interesting conclusions regarding the philosophy and politics of the adventure film (153-54, 171).

The anthology by Lauter and his coeditors contains Stowe's "Sojourner Truth, the Libyan Sibyl" (2425-33).

Among international spoonerisms, the "punlike metathesis of distinctive features may serve to weld together words etymologically unrelated but close in their sound and meaning" (Jakobsen and Waugh 304).

Although writings describing utopia have always seemed to take place far from the everyday world, in fact "all utopian fiction whirls contemporary actors through a costume dance no place else but here" (Rabkin, Greenburg, and Olander viii).

Another engaging passage is the opening of Isabel Allende's story "Toad's Mouth" (83).

In Hansberry's play *A Raisin in the Sun*, the rejection of Lindner's tempting offer permits Walter's family to pursue the new life they had long dreamed about (274-275).

Articles in Periodicals

Between 1968 and 1988, television coverage of presidential elections changed dramatically (Hallin 5).

Repetitive strain injury, or RSI, is reported to be “the fastest-growing occupational hazard of the computer age” (Taylor A1).

Electronic Sources

“The study of comparative literature,” Bill Readings wrote, “takes off from the idea of humanity” (6).

Beethoven has been called the “first politically motivated composer,” for he was caught up in the whole ferment of ideas that came out of the French Revolution” (Gardiner, screens 2-3).

“The debut of Julius Caesar,” according to Sohmer, “proclaimed Shakespeare’s Globe a theater of courage and ideas, a place where an audience must observe with the inner eye, listen with the inner ear” (par. 44).

(Adapted from: Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* 5th ed. New York: Modern Language Association, 1999.)

(Prepared by UTB/TSC LAC Writing Lab, N120)